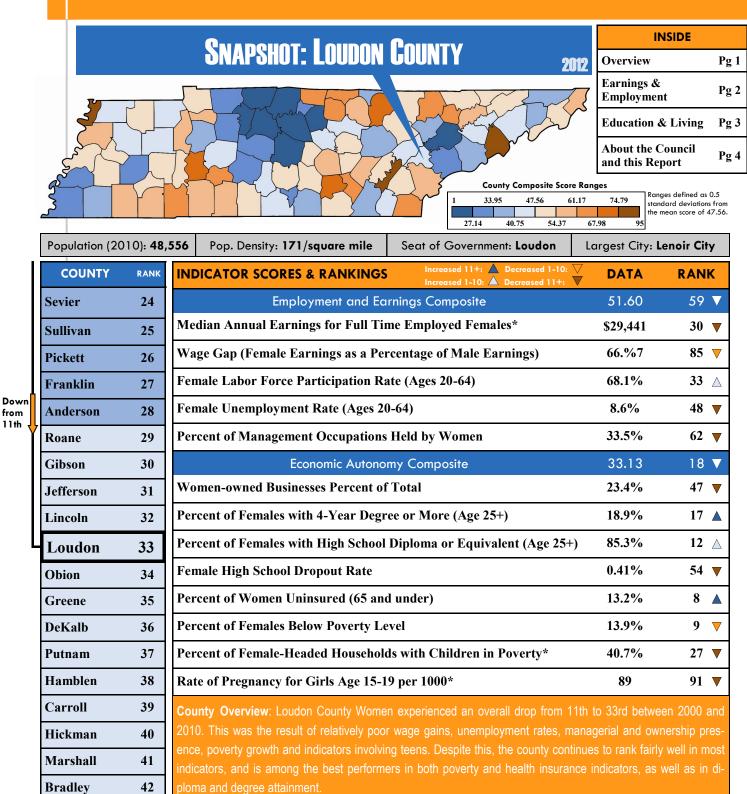
11th

## The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties



Note: all figures are based on estimates formed from sample data and are subject to sample error and rounding.

1

<sup>\*</sup> The American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual demographic survey of the U.S. It provides the detailed demographic, economic and housing data that was once supplied by the Decennial Census Long Form. The ACS has a smaller sample so combines several years' data to produce multi-year estimates. Due to the small sample size there is an increased margin of error in many less populated counties for this indicator.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The 2005 County by County figures were based on a sample of girls age 10-19, whereas the 2012 report reflects the population of girls age 15-19.

<sup>†</sup> ACS sampling sizes are insufficient to publish certain figures for this category. An estimate was developed from the performance of surrounding counties for the purposes of creating a composite score.

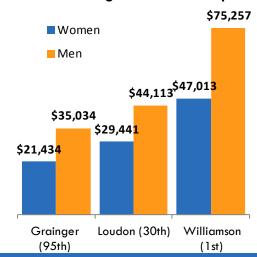
<sup>‡</sup> Estimates are too unreliable or not available to be included in composite calculations. Any figure shown is an estimate for the reader's benefit only.

# The Status of Women in: Loudon County

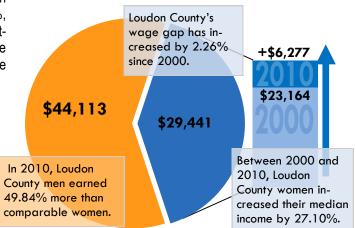
## ▼ Earnings

oudon County women have seen their earnings slip in statewide rankings since 2000, when they were ranked 17th. Adding \$6,277, or 27.10%, Loudon women now rank 30th, and only barely outpaced inflation leading into 2010. Male incomes rose at roughly 30.4 percent and ranked 8th in the state among men.

#### **Median Earnings: Counties Compared**

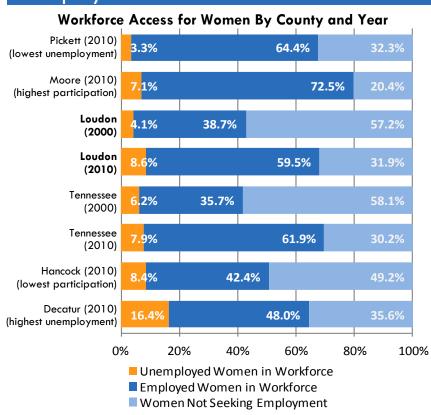


#### Median Earnings and the Wage Gap, 2000-2010



**Larger** income gains by men in Loudon County resulted in a 2.26 percent increase in the local wage disparity, causing the county to sink further in this indicator's rankings, from 76th to 85th. As of 2010 women earned only 68.1 percent of the wages that comparable men took in—well under the state mark of 77 percent—which corresponds to an annual difference of \$14,672 between the genders. This was one of the largest disparities in dollar amount as well as percentage.

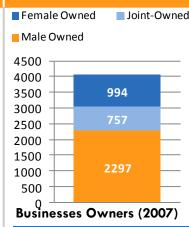
## **▼** Employment



Workforce participation among women in Loudon County has improved by 25.3 percent since 2000. With 68.1 percent of local women either employed or searching for work, Loudon improved four ranks, to 33rd, in this category and neared the state rate of 69.8 percent. Men were 12.4 percent more likely to participate in Loudon's labor pool in 2010, and women with children under six were estimated to participate at a slightly higher rate of 70.6 percent.

Unfortunately, local job creation has not kept pace with the rate at which women in Loudon have entered the labor pool, and the female unemployment rate has doubled since 2000. Up from 4.1 percent, 2010 saw 8.6 percent of women in the county searching for work—1.3 percent higher than the statewide rate—and Loudon fell from 6th in this indicator to 48th. The subgroup of women with young children was 0.4 percent more likely to be unemployed, and men in Loudon were searching at a higher rate of 9.5 percent.

# The Status of Women in: Loudon County



Loudon women have made moderate gains in managerial presence since 2000. Countywide, 5.9 percent more managers are now female, dropping to 62nd from 41st, and falling behind state estimates by 2.5 percent.

Small samples sizes make it more difficult to predict business ownership trends in Loudon, but women are projected to control a share of local businesses in 2007 that is only slightly larger than that seen in 2000; resulting in a drop in rank from 29th to 47th.

Despite this drop, when also considering jointowned firms, women have a stake in 43.3 percent of Loudon firms, and employ 18 percent of its workers.

#### Women At Work

#### **Business Management**

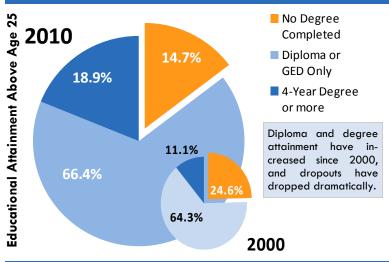
The incidence of female managers in Loudon County increased from 27.6% to 33.5% between 2000 and 2010.

#### **Business Ownership**

The percentage of women business owners also increased, though slightly, from 31.9% to 32.6% between 2000 and 2007.



### **▲** Education



**Academic** attainment has generally improved for Loudon County women since the year 2000.

The proportion of women holding four year degrees has increased by 7.8 percent to include nearly one in five women in Loudon, and has caused the county to improve from 35th to 17th statewide.

Nearly ten percent more women now hold diplomas in the county as well, resulting in a bump in this indicator's rankings of seven places, to 12th.

The only detracting figure in this group, dropout rates in Loudon included 0.41 percent of teenage girls during the 2011-12 school year, which compared favorably to the state rate of 0.61 percent, but fell in county rankings, from 21st to 54th.

### **▼** Living

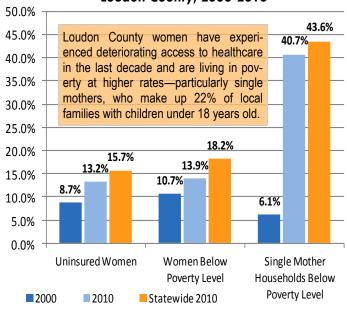
**Loudon** County performed better in living standard indicators than nearly any other county between 2000 and 2010.

Health insurance coverage, for example, did diminish—leaving 13.2 percent of women in the county uninsured—but remained 2.5 percent better than the statewide rate, and moved up substantially in rankings, from 55th to 8th.

Poverty rates followed a similar path. Overall, women were 3.2 percent more likely to live in poverty in 2010 than in 2000, but continued to fare better than women statewide and Loudon dropped just two ranks to 9th.

Continuing a state trend, single mothers in Loudon were far more acutely affected by the decade's economic hardships, and 40.7 percent of this group of women lives in poverty as of 2010. This makes Loudon's single mothers over six times as likely to live in poverty as they were in 2000, and over twice as likely to do so as the average woman in Tennessee. Loudon dropped more substantially in this rank, from 8th to 27th.

#### Health and Poverty Indicators for Women: Loudon County, 2000-2010



## About the Council and this Report

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percent of management occupations held by women.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of women with any kind of health insurance, percentage of women living in poverty and percentage of single female-headed households living in poverty, the female high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

Research & Authorship by:
William Arth, Senior Research Manager &
Julia Reynolds-Thompson, Fmr Research Analyst
Visit the Economic Council on Women at www.tennesseewomen.org

SOURCES Employment and Earnings	
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as Percent of Male Earnings)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics'
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Occupation by Sex and Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months for Full-Time, Year-Round Civilian Employed Population, 16 year and older'
Economic Autonomy	
Women-Owned Businesses Percent of Total	U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners 'Statistics for All U.S. Firms by Industry Gender, Ethnicity, and Race' † ‡
Percent of Females with 4-Yr Degree or More (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Percent of Females with High School Diploma (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Female High School Dropout Rate	Tennessee Department of Education, 2011-2012 School Year
Percent of Women Uninsured (65 or under)	U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
Percent of Women Below Poverty Level	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months'
Percent of Female-headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families' *
Rate of Pregnancy for Girls 15-19 (per 1000)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Fertility' *

Note: all figures are based on estimates formed from sample data and are subject to sample error and rounding.

<sup>\*</sup> The American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual demographic survey of the U.S. It provides the detailed demographic, economic and housing data that was once supplied by the Decennial Census Long Form. The ACS has a smaller sample so combines several years' data to produce multi-year estimates. Due to the small sample size there is an increased margin of error in many less populated counties for this indicator.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The 2005 County by County figures were based on a sample of girls age 10-19, whereas the 2012 report reflects the population of girls age 15-19.

<sup>†</sup> ACS sampling sizes are insufficient to publish certain figures for this category. An estimate was developed from the performance of surrounding counties for the purposes of creating a composite score.

<sup>‡</sup> Estimates are too unreliable or not available to be included in composite calculations. Any figure shown is an estimate for the reader's benefit only.